

National Guard, and especially MG John Libby, Maine's Adjutant General, who not only reached out to our veterans to encourage their engagement in the program, but who also participated in the Rockland District Middle School ceremony. In addition, joining with the Guard in bringing the History Channel's national award-winning program to fruition in Maine was Time Warner Cable, which sponsored the program and should be commended for its example and dedication to this outstanding endeavor.

Together, leaders of our military and our media have combined efforts in the noble undertaking of saluting our veterans through the Take a Veteran to School Day initiative, which brings veterans into our schools to share their personal stories of service and sacrifice for the Nation with students and educators. It has become an invaluable opportunity for students to learn what Veterans Day and serving our Nation in uniform truly means—and it provides a unique chance to express a heartfelt and well-earned "thank you" to the brave men and women who from generation to generation have woven the fabric of America's greatness.

And I couldn't be more pleased that more than 650 students and educators, 200 local community members, and 100 veterans from every military conflict since World War II made Maine's inaugural Take a Veteran to School Day program a resounding success. This year, in my State of Maine, three schools—York Middle School, Biddeford High School, and Rockland District Middle School—shared in paying tribute to our veterans in our first ever program.

I cannot thank the sponsors and supporters of this program enough for recognizing how vital it is that young Americans are able to hear the personal stories of service in the military, and to remember the sacrifices made by Maine veterans for our country. In fact, Time Warner Cable recorded 20 veterans' stories for the Library of Congress's Veterans' History Project, which will be added to its archives so that future generations will have an opportunity to hear veterans speak about their service to the Nation, bringing a personal perspective to military history that students otherwise would only learn about through books.

As The York Weekly reported, York Middle School Principal Steve Bishop introduced the veterans in attendance by saying, "my hope is that you gain a sense that the opportunities you have today are made possible by the veterans behind me." As you can imagine, I am looking forward to next year's program, and I hope that States and school districts around the Nation will follow suit in shining a spotlight on our veterans through this wonderful enterprise. Make no mistake, it is because of our veterans that America is the greatest Nation on Earth, and the Take a Veteran to School Day program is a shining testament to that immutable truth.

When we pay homage to our courageous veterans, we are demonstrating that we always reserve our deepest respect and praise for those who have summoned the courage to place themselves in harm's way on our behalf. That they have done so in order to ensure the blessings of liberty makes us grateful beyond words.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### AIRBORNE

• Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, for the past 2 years I have had the honor and the privilege of joining with my colleague from Rhode Island, Mr. REED, and other colleagues, in bringing before the Senate a resolution honoring those who are serving and have served in Airborne units of our armed services on the occasion of National Airborne Day. Albert Caswell, an employee of the Capitol Guide Service, has penned a poem in honor of a member of the 82nd Airborne Division, SGT Jared Lemon who is recovering from injuries suffered from the detonation of an Improvised Explosive Device while deployed to Afghanistan. I ask that this poem be printed in the RECORD.

The material follows:

##### AIRBORNE

Airborne!  
Men of Honor, who wear that uniform. . . .  
Strength In Honor, who march on!  
An Alaskan son. . . a Freedom Fighter,  
Jared this one  
Who marched off to war, to do what must be done!  
All there, walking through the valley of death. . . .  
Where courage crests!  
As upon a battlefield of honor, lie dying. . . .  
With his Brother in Arms Joseph, heroically dead beside him. . . .  
As with tears he would find then!  
As on the morning he awoke. . . .  
As to him his fine heart so spoke. . . .  
So spoke to him. . . .  
About living for his fallen brother, whose blood that binds them!  
As his new battle had begun!  
To rebuild, as to new heights his great Alaskan heart would run!  
And even though he had lost an arm, to heights he has flown!  
For he's Airborne!  
With a heart so bold, so warm!  
For no mountain is too big to climb!  
For there are new frontiers, in his heart which appears. . . .  
Bringing us all to such tears!  
For he's Airborne!  
As yes Jared you so march on!  
The 82nd, lock and load. . . .  
As a man who so lives, so lives by such a most heroic code!  
One of such selfless, as have all of those!  
America's men and women in uniform!  
Who are Airborne. . . .  
As where the face of courage is worn!  
And if I ever had a son. . . .  
I but wish, that he could but be as heroic you Jared, the one!  
For Jared, you will Teach Us, Reach Us and so Beseech Us!  
For you are Airborne!•

#### REMEMBERING SENATOR TED STEVENS

• Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, the loss of our dear friend, Senator Ted Stevens of Alaska, last August touched everyone in this body and a great many Members of the Senate's extended family here in the Capitol complex. Albert Caswell, a member of the Capitol Guide Service, has penned a poem in honor and remembrance of this great American, patriot, husband, father and public servant. I ask that Mr. Caswell's poem be printed in the RECORD.

The material follows:

##### A GLACIER

America.  
Our Country Tis of Thee . . .  
Was but built, but by such most patriotic men as he . . .  
Brave hearts of strength, pioneers of courage and liberty . . .  
A trail blazer, as Ted was he . . .  
A Giant . . .  
A Glacier . . .  
A mountain of a man . . .  
A mirror of this great frontier . . . of this great land!  
A magnificent Alaskan, who to greatness he ran . . .  
Ted Stevens, is but an Icon of this great land . . .  
A Founding Father, who helped this 49th State stand . . .  
One of The Greatest Generation, who helped Save The World . . . as was this man . . .  
The longest serving Republican Senator, in history . . .  
'Oh what A Tour 'De Force, as upon the Senate floor was he . . .  
Uncle Ted, was but the very height to which a public servant can be!  
Don't get even, Get Stevens . . . to succeed!  
Tough on the outside, but inside such a gentle heart would beat . . .  
Words like, God, Family, Country, Alaska, Military, Courage, leadership, in his heart we see!  
A Glacier died this day, as we cried this day . . .  
Mountains may break apart, and fall to the sea . . .  
But Glaciers like Ted, your memory will never . . . so be lost in history . . .  
And all of those giants you walked with like, Dole, Byrd, Inouye, Simpson and Kennedy . . .  
As your fine life of public service, will upon this floor forever speak!  
Rise up now to Heaven our fine son, Alaska's and America's great friend . . .  
For Angel's with Distinguished Flying Crosses, our Lord so needs them . . .•

#### RECOGNIZING FIBER MATERIALS, INC.

• Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, America has maintained its role as the world's most innovative and predominant economy in large part due to its 27.5 million small businesses. And many of these companies partake in significant Federal contracting and subcontracting opportunities, affording these businesses with the ability to participate in the development of new and cutting-edge technologies and products. I rise today to recognize one Maine company that has taken part in the Federal procurement process and